

Serial No.: 10/658,417

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. to 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) An arylamine compound according to Claim 14, wherein, in formula (2), at least two of Ar⁵ to Ar⁸ each represent an aromatic hydrocarbon group having 12 or more carbon atoms.

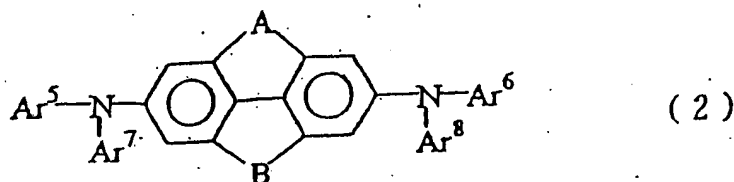
5. (Previously Presented) An arylamine compound according to Claim 14, wherein, in formula (2), at least two of Ar⁵ to Ar⁸ each represent a substituted or unsubstituted biphenyl group.

6. to 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The organic electroluminescence device according to Claim 15, wherein the layer of organic compounds is a light emitting layer or a hole transporting layer.

11. to 13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) An arylamine compound represented by the formula (2):



wherein at least one of A and B represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered to eight-membered ring that may include a spiro atom; and

Ar⁵ to Ar⁸ each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms and may represent a same group or different groups, with the following provisos:

(1) when A represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring, B represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure;

(2) when A represents an atom group forming a five-membered ring structure including a spiro atom, B ~~is vacant or~~ represents

an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure;

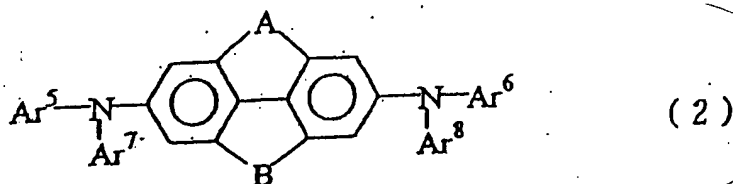
(3) when A represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated six-membered ring structure, B represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure;

with the further proviso that at least one of A and B does not include two or more unsaturated six-membered ring structures;

(4) when A represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated six-membered ring structure including a spiro atom, B is vacant or represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure; and

(5) when A represents $-\text{CH}_2\text{-O}-$, B is vacant.

15. (Currently Amended) An organic electroluminescence device comprising a pair of electrodes and a layer of organic compounds disposed between the pair of electrodes, wherein the layer of organic compounds comprises an arylamine compound represented by the formula (2):



wherein at least one of A and B represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered to eight-membered ring that may include a spiro atom; and

Ar⁵ to Ar⁸ each independently represent a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms and may represent a same group or different groups, with the following provisos:

(1) when A represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring, B represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure;

(2) when A represents an atom group forming a five-membered ring structure including a spiro atom, B ~~is vacant or~~ represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure;

(3) when A represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated six-membered ring structure, B represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure;

with the further proviso that at least one of A and B does

Serial No.: 10/658,417

not include two or more unsaturated six-membered ring structures;

(4) when A represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated six-membered ring structure including a spiro atom, B is vacant or represents an atom group forming a substituted or unsubstituted saturated five-membered ring to eight-membered ring structure; and

(5) when A represents $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$, B is vacant.

16. (Previously Presented) An organic electroluminescence device according to Claim 15, further comprising a light emitting material.

Serial No.: 10/658,417

REMARKS

The independent claims (14 and 15) have been amended in a sincere attempt to place the case in condition for allowance. More particularly, both of those claims have been amended to eliminate the possibility that B is vacant when A represents an atom group forming a five-membered ring structure including a spiro atom.

The rejection of claims 4 and 5 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 is respectfully traversed. The Examiner makes a helpful suggestion for change but it is respectfully submitted that the claims as worded are proper. Claim 14 provides definitions of each of moieties Ar⁵ to Ar⁸ and claims 4 and 5 merely give a preferred embodiment where at least two of those moieties represent certain groups. The claims thus are believed proper. If the Examiner, following his reading of the foregoing believes that a change is necessary, he is asked to contact the undersigned.

The rejection of claims 4, 5, 10, and 14 to 16 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by De '713, more particularly the compound RN = 189363-47-1, if applied to the claims as amended, is respectfully traversed. The independent claims have been

Serial No.: 10/658,417

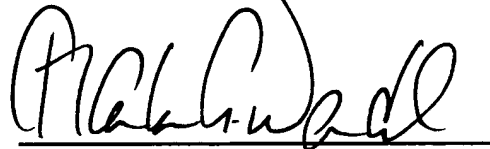
changed as discussed above and the claims are believed patentably to define over the reference.

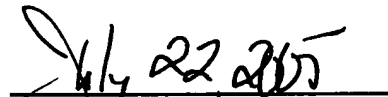
Reconsideration of the case and an early allowance thereof is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the application prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP


Charles A. Wendel
Registration No. 24,453


Date

CAW/ch

Atty Dkt: 28955.4006C1

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 429-6415